



Making San Francisco Bay Better

September 22, 2009

Ms. Cynthia Bryant
Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

SUBJECT: ABAG and MTC Request for Funding

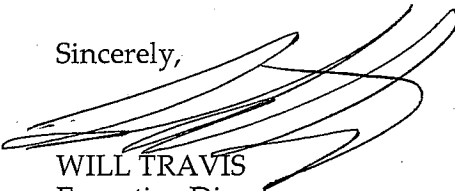
Dear Ms. Bryant:

I am writing to express my support for the Association of Bay Area Government's application for a \$1,950,000 grant from the Office of Research and Planning to fund improvements to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's and the Association of Bay Area Governments' transportation and land use models.

As the Bay Area faces the challenges posed by climate change, population growth, and economic fluctuations, it is incumbent upon us to develop precise data upon which we can base thoughtful infrastructure decisions. Over the past few years ABAG and MTC have been working collaboratively to improve and integrate models that both agencies rely upon. The completion of this project will enable ABAG and MTC to produce more specific and more reliable modeling to analyze the relationship between various smart growth scenarios and potential transportation investments, and provide an integrated regional land use and travel model that captures the impacts of land use changes on travel behavior, carbon dioxide emissions, and potential infrastructure investments. These land use planning transportation modeling products will provide critical information that will enable Bay Area decision-makers to promote compact development, improved mobility, and cleaner air in our region. Therefore, I urge you to approve this grant application.

If you have any questions, please contact Paul Fassinger, ABAG Research Director at (510) 464-7928 or paulf@abag.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



WILL TRAVIS
Executive Director

WT/gg